

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Gunter RITTER  
Serial No.: 10/088049  
Filed: June 4, 2002  
Confirmation No.: 6718  
Due Date: December 26, 2003  
Title: METHOD FOR IMPROVING WATER QUALITY OF TANK SYSTEM

Examiner: unknown  
Group Art Unit: 2877  
Docket: 12742.0019USWO  
Notice of Allow. n/a  
Date:

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 12, 2003.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s)
- ☒ Other: PTO-892 mailed September 26, 2003 for co-pending application no. 10/088048.
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

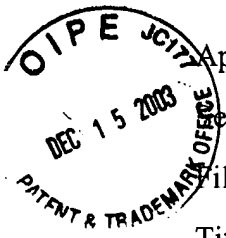
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By: *Ronald A. Daignault*  
Name: Ronald A. Daignault  
Reg. No.: 25,968  
R. Daignault:smm

S/N 10/088049

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant:	Gunter RITTER	Examiner:	unknown
Serial No.:	10/088049	Group Art Unit:	2877
Filed:	June 4, 2002	Docket No.:	12742.0019USWO
Title:	METHOD FOR IMPROVING WATER QUALITY OF TANK SYSTEM		

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By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))**

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/088,048, filed June 4, 2002.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Enclosed is a copy of the PTO-892 mailed September 26, 2003 for co-pending Application Serial No. 10/088048 citing US 5,618,574 and 6,299,928.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.


Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: December 12, 2003

By   
Ronald Daignault  
Reg. No. 25,968

RAD/smm

FORM 1449\*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

12742.0019USWO

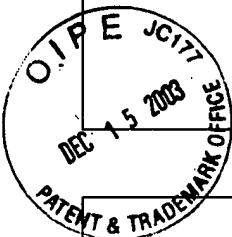
Application Number:

10/088049

Applicant: Gunter RITTER

Filing Date: June 4, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2877



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 5,618,574	April 1997	BUNCH			
	US 6,299,928	Oct. 2001	TAKEUCHI et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Leaflet supplied with the product "CENTRUM", a food supplemental marketed in April 1997 in Germany by the company Whitehall-Much.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.